

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are present in the above-captioned application and have been subjected to restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121.

The restriction requirement is partially traversed. Figures 6A through 6D illustrate various membrane limiting means. However, these membrane limiting means are not necessarily required on any of the devices shown in Species I – VII, or A – D. In fact, in one embodiment the membrane assembly may be fixedly attached to the structural frame, thus not requiring a membrane limiting means. See page 37, lines 3-8. In another embodiment, the membrane assembly may be slideably attached to the structural frame (in whole or in part), allowing the distal end of the membrane to slide along the frame. See page 37, lines 8-14. Once again, this embodiment does not necessarily have to include a membrane limiting means. Instead, the limiting means is used to limit sliding movement between the membrane and the structural frame, particularly when there is excessive sliding movement between the two elements.

Requiring the Applicants to select a membrane limiting means from Species 1) through 4) unnecessarily limits the scope of the invention. Applicants respectfully contend that there should be no species selection required for the membrane limiting means. Accordingly, applicants therefore request that the Examiner remove the restriction requirement for the membrane limiting means.

Respectfully submitted,

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